



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 547

January Session, 2013

House Bill No. 5725

House of Representatives, April 17, 2013

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. ROJAS of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-WIDE PHOSPHOROUS REDUCTION PLAN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22a-428a of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the
4 commissioner's designee and the chief elected officials of the cities of
5 Danbury, Meriden and Waterbury and the towns of Cheshire,
6 Southington and Wallingford, and the chief elected official of any other
7 municipality impacted by the state-wide strategy to reduce
8 phosphorus, or such chief elected officials' designees, shall
9 collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations regarding a state-
10 wide strategy to reduce phosphorus loading in inland nontidal waters
11 in order to comply with standards established by the United States
12 Environmental Protection Agency. Such evaluation and
13 recommendations shall include (1) a state-wide response to address
14 phosphorus nonpoint source pollution, (2) approaches for

15 municipalities to use in order to comply with standards established by
16 the United States Environmental Protection Agency for phosphorus,
17 including guidance for treatment and potential plant upgrades, and (3)
18 the proper scientific methods by which to measure current phosphorus
19 levels in inland nontidal waters and to make future projections of
20 phosphorus levels in such waters. The commissioner shall submit a
21 report on or before January 1, 2014, in accordance with the provisions
22 of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General
23 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to municipalities and
24 the environment. Such report shall set forth the recommendations
25 required pursuant to subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of this section and
26 detail the collaborative effort through which such recommendations
27 were reached.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22a-428a
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PD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Currently, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), or his designee, is required to report on a statewide strategy regarding the reduction of phosphorus in nontidal waters. The bill requires this report by January 1, 2014. There is no fiscal impact for the preparation of this document.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5725*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-WIDE PHOSPHOROUS REDUCTION PLAN.*****SUMMARY:**

The law requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner, or his designee, to work with specified municipalities to collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations on a statewide strategy to reduce phosphorus in inland nontidal waters. This bill requires the commissioner to report to the legislature, by January 1, 2014, on these collaborative efforts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

STATEWIDE PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION STRATEGY

PA 12-155 required the DEEP commissioner, by January 1, 2014, or his designee, and the chief elected officials, or their designees, of Cheshire, Danbury, Meriden, Southington, Wallingford, Waterbury, and any other impacted municipality to collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations on a statewide strategy to reduce phosphorus loading in inland nontidal waters to comply with U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.

The bill requires the DEEP commissioner, by January, 1, 2014, to report to the Planning and Development and Environment committees on the strategy's recommendations and detail the collaborative effort through which they were reached.

By law, the strategy must include:

1. a statewide response to address phosphorous nonpoint source pollution;

2. approaches for municipalities to use to comply with EPA standards for phosphorous reduction, including guidance for treatment and potential plant upgrades; and
3. the proper scientific methods for (a) measuring current phosphorous levels in inland nontidal waters and (b) making future projections of phosphorous levels in these waters.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)